

MISSISSIPPI

National River and Recreation Area
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI

From its source at Lake Itasca in northern Minnesota the Mississippi flows south 2348 miles to the Gulf of Mexico at New Orleans. Cities and towns dot the river's banks while pines, maples, and ash populate its islands. Along the river live bald eagles, beaver, and deer. Humans at rivertowns, locks and dams, and on boats and barges understand why the Mississippi is called a working river.



In November, 1988, Congress added the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA) to the National Park System. This system consists of more than 350 parks representing important examples of America's natural and cultural heritage. Congress gave the National Park Service (NPS) responsibility, "To protect, preserve, and enhance the significant values of the waters and land of the Mississippi River Corridor within the Saint Paul-Minneapolis Metropolitan area."

MNRRA includes 72 miles of the Mississippi and adjacent lands (see map on reverse). Also included are four miles of the Minnesota River and adjacent lands upstream from its confluence with the Mississippi. Dayton marks the northern limit of MNRRA; the southern limit is just south of Hastings. Visitors picnic, hike, bicycle, cross country ski, and fish in the many parks existing within the boundaries of MNRRA. On the river, boaters and canoeists may share the water with barges moving coal, sand, or grain. Two and one-half million people living in the Twin Cities metropolitan area can travel to the river within an hour.

Nationally significant historical, recreational, scenic, cultural, natural, economic, and scientific resources were identified within the boundaries of MNRRA. The NPS is cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Army Corps of Engineers, other federal, state, and regional agencies, and local communities to coordinate use, development, and protection of the river corridor.



PLANNING FOR MNRRA

The comprehensive Management Plan for MNRRA that is now being developed will guide and coordinate efforts of agencies and others associated with the river. The plan will outline a strategy to preserve, protect, and enhance the recreational, natural, cultural, commercial, industrial, and residential values within the area.

The legislation creating MNRRA established the 22-member Mississippi River Coordinating Commission to assist federal, state, and local authorities in the development and implementation of the plan. Its 22 members represent state and federal agencies, local government, commercial and environmental interests, and the public at large.

An interdisciplinary NPS planning team is working with the commission to develop a draft plan. Many methods will be used to involve river enthusiasts, experienced planning professionals, and the public in developing the plan.

The NPS planning team and the Mississippi River Coordinating Commission are collecting and analyzing data that is needed to develop a sound management plan. The five phase planning process is expected to be completed by late 1993.

- In the **START UP** phase, NPS planners and commission members agree to a planning schedule and begin identifying significant resources. They also develop preliminary visions for the corridor's future, which will undergo extensive public and agency review.
- During **ANALYSIS**, planning participants determine data needs and collect and analyze data.
- In the **ALTERNATIVES** phase, alternative options for MNRRA will be formulated and a draft plan prepared.
- An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)** will be prepared to analyze potential actions. The EIS and draft plan will also undergo extensive public and agency review.
- An **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN** will be included as a part of the final plan.

The final plan will be submitted to the Governor of Minnesota for recommendations and the Secretary of Interior for approval and transmittal to Congress.

WHERE IS MNRRA?



The Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, shown in blue on this map, draws a curve through the heart of Minnesota's Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area. The boundary encircles approximately 53,780 acres of public and private land and the river. The map on the back of this brochure shows existing parks and developed areas within MNRRA.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The National Park Service welcomes the participation of citizens in planning MNRRA.

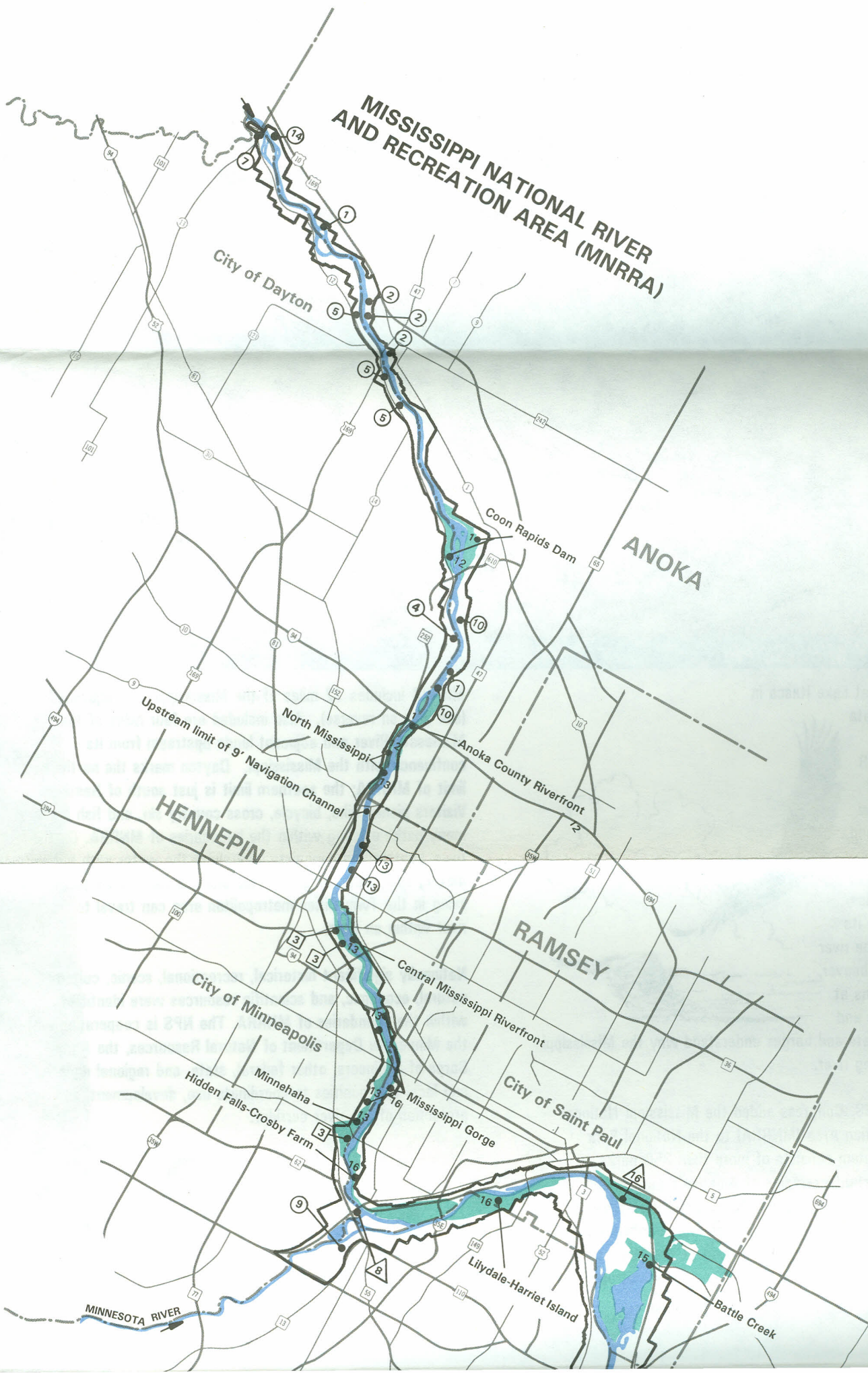
If you would like more information, send your name and address to:

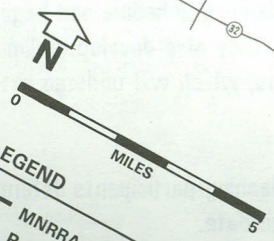
Superintendent, Mississippi National River & Recreation Area, Suite 418,
175 E. 5th Street, St. Paul, MN 55101, or call: 612-290-4160



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MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL RIVER AND RECREATION AREA (MNRRA)





- LEGEND**
- 1 MNRRRA Boundary
 - 2 Regional Parks and Reserves*
 - 3 Other Parks
 - 4 Lock and Dam
 - 5 Historic Site

*For more information about the areas shown, call the appropriate agency listed to the right:

1. Anoka County Parks
612-757-3920
2. City of Anoka Parks & Recreation
612-421-6630
3. Army Corps of Engineers
612-220-0200
4. Brooklyn Park Parks & Recreation
612-424-8017
5. Champlin Parks & Recreation
612-421-2820
6. Dakota County Parks Department
612-437-6608
7. City of Dayton
612-427-4589
8. Fort Snelling History Center
612-726-1171
9. Fort Snelling State Park
612-725-2389
10. City of Fridley Recreation Department
612-572-3570
11. Hastings Park & Recreation
612-437-5858
12. Hennepin Parks & Recreation Board
612-349-2142
13. Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board
612-349-2142
14. Minnesota Department of Transportation
612-296-5773
15. Ramsey County Parks & Recreation
612-777-1707
16. City of St. Paul Parks & Recreation
612-292-7400

PHONE NUMBER UPDATE

3. 290-5200 14. 296-1648
13. 661-4800 16. 266-6400